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#### NOTES.

THE publication of a Library of Economics and Politics under the editorial control of Professor Richard T. Ely, director of the School of Economics, Political Science and History at the University of Wisconsin, is announced by Crowell & Co. The volumes at present arranged for are : "*The Independent Treasury System of the United States*," by Mr. David Kinley, A. B., Assistant and Fellow in Economics in the University of Wisconsin ; "*American Charities : A Study in Philanthropy and Economics*," by Amos G. Warner, Ph. D., Superintendent of Charities for the District of Columbia, and Professor-elect of Economics in the Leland-Stanford, Jr., University ; and "*Repudiation of State Debts in the United States*," by William A. Scott, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of Political Economy in the University of Wisconsin. The subsequent numbers of the series will include two works by Dr. Ely, one on "*Socialism*," and one on "*Suggestions on Social Topics*," and also a work by Albert Shaw, Ph. D., editor of the *Review of Reviews*.

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IN *The Aegis* of the University of Wisconsin, November 4, 1892, Professor F. J. Turner gives a suggestive statement of the "*Problems in American History*," which may well invite the attention of students of American history at the present time. The problems especially emphasized in the article are those connected with the social and economic history of the United States. Professor Turner's studies have been mostly devoted to this field of American history, and he is able in a short article to give many valuable suggestions to historical investigators.

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UNDER the title *La Société moderne, études morales et politiques*,\* M. J. G. Courcelle-Seneuil has brought together some twenty previously published essays relating to the fundamental principles of our modern social organization. "Democracy," "The Study of History," "A Criticism of the Declaration of the Rights of Man," "The Theory of Representation," "A Sketch of a Rational System of Politics" and "The Ethical and Legal Instruction in France" form the chief subjects of discussion.

\* 12mo, pp. 543. Paris : Guillaumin et Cie, 1892.

MR. PERKINS, in his book on *France Under the Regency*,\* has given us a readable, anecdotal sketch not only of the administration of the Duke of Orleans, but of the reign of Louis XIV. as well, devoting, in fact, over half the volume to the latter period. He has made constant use of original authorities, referring us, perhaps too exclusively, to these. It is often interesting to know the opinions of other worthy workers in the same field. For example, in the chapters upon John Law and his system, the suggestive account of this matter which Louis Blanc has given us (*Revolution* fr. i., pp. 260 ff.) merited attention. The author is clear and entertaining in his style, betraying the influence of the gossipy memoirs which he has conned. While he limits himself to the safest of generalizations, he is judicious in his choice of material, and free from the common tendency to exaggerate the importance of events and men which have received our especial attention.

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THE fact that there are still comparatively few colleges in which any instruction in political economy is given by specialists in economics, or by men qualified by special training, makes especially welcome any method of improving the teaching of economics. The University Extension system offers the colleges one way of bettering their work in political economy. Courses of six, twelve or twenty-four lectures can be secured to the college classes from university specialists by means of the University Extension system at a moderate cost. Such courses would constitute a valuable supplement to the regular instruction given in those colleges which have not yet established a distinct chair of economics. The President of Wilson College, at Chambersburg, Pa., gives a report in the November, 1892, number of *University Extension* of the first attempt that has been made to introduce University Extension courses into a regular college class. A college course, occupying half the senior year, was supplemented by a series of twelve lectures, delivered by a staff lecturer of the American Society for the Extension of University Teaching. The results were very gratifying, and the experiment shows a practical way of bettering college instruction in economics.

\* *FRANCE UNDER THE REGENCY*, with a review of the administration of Louis XIV. By JAMES BRECK PERKINS, author of "France Under Richelieu and Mazarin." Pp. 603. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1892.